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THE DIRECTOR OF CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20505

National Intelligence Council

DDI #6988-82
27 August 1982

MEMORANDUM FOR: Chairman,
Weapons and Space Systems Intelligence Committee

ATTENTION : Ground Weapons Subcommittee

FROM : Major General Edward B. Atkeson, USA
National Intelligence Officer for General Purpose Forces

SUBJECT : Designation of Projected Soviet Weapon Systems

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1. In response to my request for comments on our projected Interagency Intelligence Memorandum on the Soviet Armor Program, the Commander, US Army Armor Center, forwarded the attached memorandum. The memorandum offers some sobering reflections on the intelligence community's past performance in projecting Soviet weapon developments and some extremely useful guidance for the drafters of the IIM.

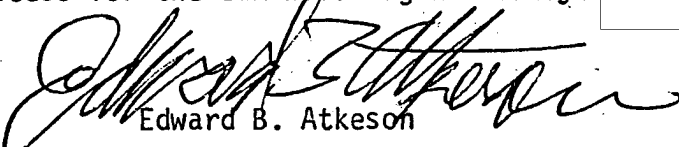
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2. I am particularly disturbed, however, by the allegation that there is no uniform system within the US community for designating and identifying projected Soviet ground weapon systems, particularly tanks and antiarmor weapons. It is clear that, even if such a system exists, it either is being abused or is not fully understood within and without the intelligence community.

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3. I would appreciate your thoughts on the attached memorandum and your suggestions on how the community might properly go about establishing uniformity, if indeed a system does not exist. Your assistance would be especially timely, as the drafting process for the IIM will begin shortly.

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Edward B. Atkeson

Attachments:
Memorandum,
dtd. 3 Aug 82
Proposal

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MEMORANDUM FOR: Chairman, WSSIC

ATTENTION : Ground Weapons Subcommittee

FROM : MG E. B. Atkeson, USA
NIO/GPF

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